

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:)
Srinivasan, et al.) **Group Art Unit:** Not yet assigned
Serial No.: Not yet assigned)
Filed: January 18, 2000) **Examiner:** Not yet assigned
For: Method and System for Representing)
and Accessing Object-Oriented Data in a)
Relational Database System)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to a substantive examination of the application, please consider the following
remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 16-20 and 22 in the parent application were cancelled in the filing under 37 CFR § 1.53(b). No other Claims are amended or added; hence, Claims 1-15, 21, and 23 in the parent are pending in the present application.

REMARKS

Claims 1-15, 21, and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in the parent Application as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,937,409 ("Wetherbee") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,016,499 ("Ferguson").

Applicants respectfully submit that rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is not proper in